

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Original) Process for the industrial production of packed, ambient stable pasta, which process comprises the steps of preparing a dough comprising (wt %):

- a) 35-70 % durum semolina,
- b) 0.2-1.0 % alginate,
- c) 25-60 % water,
- d) optionally salt or other seasoning or flavoring agents,

said dough is subsequently shaped into pieces or strands, and cooked by contacting the pieces or strands with hot water or steam, whereafter the pieces or strands are treated with a calcium chloride solution and placed in a container in which they are sterilized.

Claim 2 (Original) Process according to claim 1, wherein the dough consists essentially of:

- 35-70 % by weight durum semolina,
- 25-60 % by weight water,
- 0.2-1.0 % by weight alginate,

the balance being salt or other seasoning or flavoring agents.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 1-2, wherein the dough pieces or strands are cooked in boiling water for 0.5 to 3 minutes.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 1-3, wherein the cooked dough pieces or strands are treated with a 0.2-3 % CaCl_2 solution for 0.2-2 hours.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 1-4, wherein the dough pieces are sprayed with water or stored in water.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 1-5, wherein the dough pieces are sterilized in an open or closed can.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 1-6, wherein the pieces or strands are in the shape of spaetzle, gnocci, macaroni, spaghetti, tagliatelle, lasagna, linguini, elbows, shells, penne, fettucine, or fusilli.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 1-7, wherein packaging is in a plastic container or a can.

Claim 9 (Original) Packaged, ambient stable, sterilised pasta particles having a composition comprising

- (a) 35-70 % durum semolina,
- (b) 0.2-1.0 % alginate,
- (c) 25-60 % water.

Claim 10 (Original) Packaged ambient stable pasta particles according to claim 9, wherein the pasta particles are spaetzle, gnocci, macaroni, spaghetti, tagliatelle, lasagna, linguini, elbows, shells, penne, fettucine, or fusilli.